



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 11, 1992

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Senior Reclamation Specialist *HLS*

RE: Site Inspection, San Rafael Energy Corp., Four Corners Mine, M/015/014, Emery County, Utah

Date of Inspection: September 2, 1992  
Time of Inspection: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Conditions: Sunny, warm  
Participants: Holland Shepherd, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To evaluate the site for semi-bond release.

Several weeks ago, the operator of the Four Corners mine requested that I look at the site in an effort to evaluate reduction of the bond. The operator has requested that the Division change the status of this mine from a large mine site to a small mine site. Currently, the bond held on this site is \$7,000. Two years ago, the operator reclaimed portions of the site to reduce the size to under a 5 acre status. Portions of the site were left unreclaimed which included the mine office, shed and warehouse, along with the mine portal.

The grading and revegetation efforts that the mine operator has performed can be released, however portions of the \$7,000 bond must be kept to address the remaining buildings and the unreclaimed portal decline found at the site.

When speaking to the operator, I explained to him that the Division no longer allows for the establishment of small mine status for an operation which was once over 5 acres. The entire site must be reclaimed to achieve complete surety release. The operator will have to maintain a bond on the site until the site has been completely reclaimed and completely released.

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I also, explained to the operator, Mr. Gary Jacobson, that the Division could release a portion of the bond to reduce the amount to an amount which more specifically addressed the remaining reclamation. The site was partially reclaimed three years ago by the operator, so a portion of the bond could be eliminated. It is my judgement that the portions of the site that were earlier reclaimed are ready for bond release. The total disturbed acreage, at the site is now less than 1 acre.

The next step will be to contact the operator with a new form and amount of surety, that is acceptable to the operator. The surety will have to be approved by the Board, before the original surety can be released to the operator.

jb

cc: Gary Jacobson, Operator